

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Page 3, last paragraph, please amend as follows:

According to the invention, there is provided a CVD process for producing preforms for dispersion shifted optical fiber or dispersion compensating optical ~~fiber-fibers~~ having a core comprising a central portion, an inner cladding, a ring, and an outer cladding, by depositing layers, in which method the layers of the preform corresponding to the inner cladding and to the ring of the optical fiber have a phosphorus content not greater than 0.1 wt%.

Page 4, prior to the first full paragraph, please insert the following:

**DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION**